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Mid-Michigan's Biggest Party Returns: 3rd Annual Lansing Fiesta Carnival & Music Festival set for June 18-21, 2026

Mid-Michigan's Biggest Party Returns: 3rd Annual Lansing Fiesta Carnival & Music Festival Set for June 18–21, 2026

LANSING, MI — The highly anticipated 3rd Annual Lansing Fiesta Carnival & Music Festival is set to take over Adado Riverfront Park in Downtown Lansing from June 18 through June 21, 2026, bringing four days of live music, cultural celebration, carnival rides, food, and family-friendly entertainment.

Promoted as "Mid-Michigan's Biggest Party," this year's festival promises to be bigger than ever, featuring a diverse lineup of musical acts and attractions for all ages.

Music & Entertainment Lineup

Festivalgoers can enjoy a wide variety of live performances throughout the weekend:

- Thursday, June 18 (4–10 PM): Country Music featuring Keegan Jacko
- Friday, June 19 (4–11 PM): Old School Hip Hop & R&B with Metro Melik
- Saturday, June 20 (12–11 PM): Tejano Explosion featuring Grupo Dezéo and Tejano Heat
- Sunday, June 21 (12–7 PM): Father's Day Party with performances by DJ Sinsation, DJ Mixteco Sound, DJ Killer, DJ Mingo, and more

Festival Attractions

The Lansing Fiesta offers something for everyone, including:

- Carnival rides and games
- A wide selection of food trucks and vendors
- A lively beer tent hosted by Piazzano's (with 100% of proceeds benefiting Santa's Wish List)
- Family-friendly activities throughout the weekend

Admission Details

- Thursday–Saturday: $10 admission
- Sunday: $5 admission
- Children 10 & under: Free
- Ages 17 & under: Must be accompanied by an adult

Community & Safety

Security will be strictly enforced, with the Lansing Police Department on-site to ensure a safe and enjoyable environment for all attendees.

Get Ready to Celebrate

With a unique blend of music, culture, and entertainment, the Lansing Fiesta Carnival & Music Festival continues to grow as one of the region's premier summer events.

Attendees are encouraged to purchase discounted wristbands in advance at: www.gotothecarnival.com

For more event details, visit: www.lansingfiesta.com

Media & Vendor Inquiries

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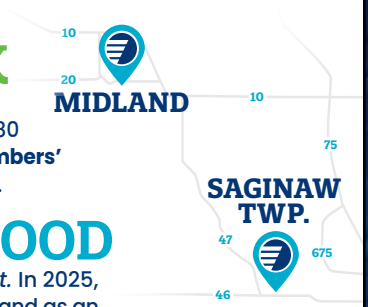

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CHICO RAMOS

Bringing Community Together at Hoyt Park

By Christiana Malacara

For many families in Saginaw, Hoyt Park has always been more than just a park; it is a place filled with memories, tradition, and community connection. Helping continue that legacy is Chico Ramos, Event Coordinator at Hoyt Park and a dedicated community leader who has spent the last two years creating events that bring people together.

From sports tournaments and skating events to cultural celebrations and youth activities, Chico works to make Hoyt Park welcoming to everyone. Alongside his role at the park, he also works with the Saginaw Intermediate School District through partnerships focused on community engagement and opportunities for students and families.

"Community is about bringing people together and creating positive experiences for families, students, and visitors," he shared. "My role allows me to help organize events that create opportunities for people to connect."

As a Latino leader in the community, Chico says culture and representation are especially important to him. "I believe representation matters, especially for younger generations," he explained. "Through events like Cinco de Mayo tournaments and community partnerships, I try to help bring people together while showcasing the importance of all cultures, all family values, and diversity."

Hoyt Park has long been a gathering place for Saginaw residents, with generations growing up playing sports, skating, sledding, and attending community events there. Chico himself shares that connection. "I have a personal connection to the park as both a former player and now as an Event Coordinator helping continue that tradition for future generations."

Today, Hoyt Park continues evolving with upgraded softball diamonds, winter skating activities, pond hockey tournaments, and year-round events that keep the spirit of community alive in Saginaw. More information can be found at friendsofhoytparksaginaw.com

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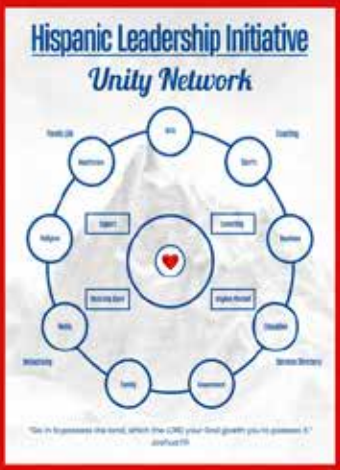

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Club President: **Joe M Loperena Jr.**

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Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2026

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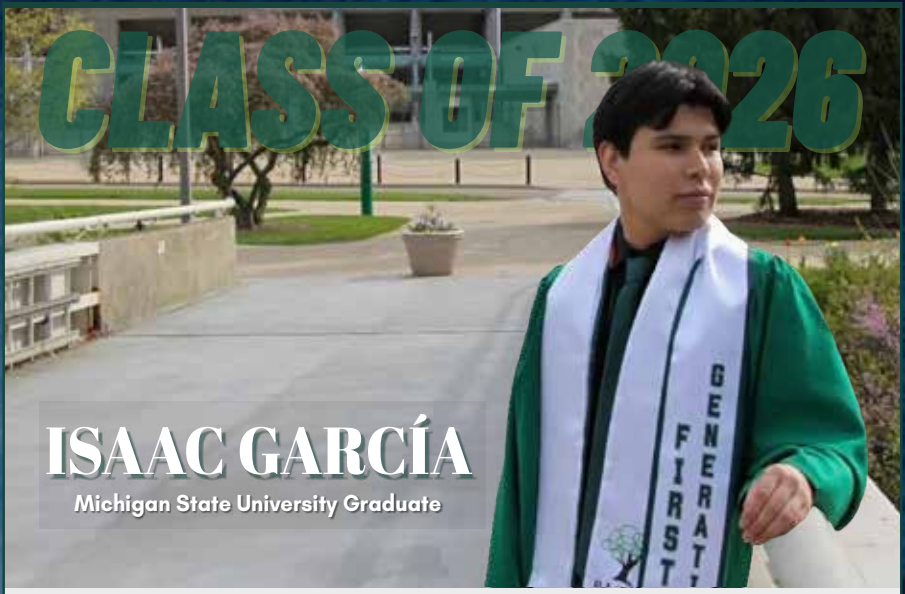
Michigan's high school graduation rate reached a record 84% for the Class of 2025, continuing a steady rise over the last 10 years. Hispanic and Latino graduation rates have also increased during that time, with the state reporting another 1% increase for Latino students from 2024 to 2025. Recent Michigan enrollment data also shows that 41.1% of Hispanic and Latino graduates enrolled in college within six months of graduation, often pursuing fields connected to healthcare, business, engineering, and education. Data from Michigan education and workforce reports supports this trend.

In the Great Lakes Bay Region, Hispanic/Latino students are increasingly participating in postsecondary pathways through Delta College, Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU), and skilled trades programs tied to regional employers. At Delta College alone, Hispanic/Latino students make up about 8% of enrollment across Bay, Saginaw, and Midland counties, with strong participation in dual enrollment and early college programs that prepare students for college credit while still in high school. At Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU), Hispanic/Latino students make up about 6% of the total student body, with the recent data showing roughly 394 students (about 5.8%) enrolled in 2024–2025 across undergraduate and graduate programs.

CLASS OF 2026



ISAAC GARCÍA

Michigan State University Graduate

Finding My Purpose

Earning my Bachelor of Science in Human Biology and Integrative Biology, along with a minor in Leadership in Integrated Learning from Michigan State University, strengthened my understanding of how biology, behavior, and environment shape human health. As a first-generation college student, my journey developed my leadership, research, and critical thinking skills while preparing me to approach healthcare through a holistic lens and create meaningful impact within the communities I serve.

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- FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT
- MEMBER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS BAILEY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

MARINA SKY ZAMORA

Heritage High School

Marina will be attending Saginaw Valley State University.

LOUIE

Omni High School

Louie will attend college for HVAC. Congratulations Louie! We are so proud of you!

CAYDINCE MARIA MOSQUEDA

Saginaw United High School

Founder of Sis-N-Bros Tacos, A 2026 Saginaw United High School Graduate. She has been accepted to every College/ University in Michigan, but she hasn't decided which one to attend yet. Also, graduating from Saginaw Career Complex/ Bayshire Beauty Academy this year(2026) as a student of Cosmetology. She has plans of opening her own Mobile Boutique/Salon once she is done learning everything she can about her field of interest! May her future be full of blessings and success!!!

ANGELINA ZARIA-SIMONE BENAVIDES

Swan Valley High School & Saginaw Career Complex

Attending Delta College in the fall for dental hygiene.

AALIYAH ESTRELLA ROSSMAN

Heritage High School

Aaliyah proudly graduated from Heritage High School as a member of the Class of 2026. She plans to begin her academic journey at Delta Community College, where she will pursue her associate degree while exploring and discovering her professional passions and career path. Following graduation from Delta, Aaliyah plans to continue her education at Michigan State University as she works toward achieving her future goals.

THALIA ROS GONZ

Heritage H

Thalia will be Saginaw Valle University to degree in Psy a minor in Cri – Forensic Psy

LAILAH ZAY-LYNN MEDINA

Heritage High School

Lailah attended Heritage High School while also taking courses through the Saginaw Career Complex and Delta College. She will continue through the Early Middle College program at Delta Community College to earn her Associate's Degree by 2027 before transferring to a university to pursue a career as a Doctor of Physical Therapy.

Congratulations, Lailah! I am so proud of your hard work, strength, and determination. Your future is bright, and I cannot wait to watch you continue to achieve your dreams. When life gets tough, just remember you are stronger! I love you forever and always, always and forever, Mom

ANDREW

Heritage High School

Andrew proudly graduated with honors from Heritage High School. He will continue his academic journey at Michigan State University, where he was awarded a nearly full scholarship in recognition of his achievements and dedication. Aspiring to make a difference in healthcare, Andrew plans to pursue pre-medical studies with the goal of becoming a physician.

SE HEREDIA-ALEZ

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ychology.

DESTENY MOLINA

Heritage High School

Desteny has been admitted to Delta College and pursuing the Health & Fitness Specialist program. She has graduated with the Principal's Honor Roll & Magna Cum Laude!

ALIYAH CIRILO

Heritage High School

Congratulations Aliyah! We are so proud of you. Aliyah will be continuing her education at Delta College to pursue teaching. You will be the best teacher ever. Remember to always seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness... Matthew 6:33 We love you!

Love Mom, Dad, Ayanna, and T.C.

More Than a Game:

Latino Baseball Traditions in the Great Lakes Bay Region

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

By Christiana Malacara

Photo Credit Castle Museum of Saginaw County History

For generations, baseball has been more than just a game in Latino communities; it has been a symbol of family, pride, and tradition. Across Latin America, especially in countries like Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and the Dominican Republic, baseball became popular in the late 1800s as students and workers brought the sport home from the United States and the Caribbean. Cuba played a major role in spreading the game throughout Latin America, and from there, baseball quickly became part of everyday life.

In Mexico, baseball especially grew in northern states and working-class communities during the early 1900s, where local teams became gathering places for families and neighborhoods. By the 1920s and 1930s, cities in northern Mexican states such as Sonora, Sinaloa, and Nuevo León had developed strong baseball traditions. Many Mexican families migrated north during this time for railroad, agricultural, mining, and factory work, helping spread the sport throughout as they played in new areas. Eventually, into Mexican-American communities across states, working their way up to Michigan.

Here in the Great Lakes Bay Region, baseball has carried deep meaning for Mexican-American families for generations. As Mexican-American families settled throughout Saginaw during the mid-1900s, baseball became more than entertainment; it became a community tradition. Families gathered at neighborhood diamonds on the city's south and west sides, including parks near Genesee Avenue, Luna Park, Veterans Memorial areas, and community recreation fields throughout Saginaw County. Weekend games often turned into full cultural gatherings where people brought homemade food, listened to music on radios, and spent entire afternoons cheering for local players.

Saginaw has a rich baseball history dating back to the 1880s, when teams such as the Saginaw Greys, Saginaw Pirates, Saginaw Ducks, Saginaw Aces, Los Cardenales and Saginaw Bears helped establish the city as one of Michigan's active early baseball communities. Many games during the early 1900s were played at the ballpark later known as Aces Park, located near Davenport Avenue and Mary Street on Saginaw's west side. The field went through several name changes over the years, including Athletic Park, Recreation Park, Burkhart Park, and Opportunity Park. Later, from 1940 through 1951, Saginaw teams played at Veterans Memorial Stadium on Holland Avenue and South 20th Street, which was later renamed Saginaw Stadium and is now part of present-day McKinley Park.

For many families in Saginaw, the baseball field was also where younger generations learned both English and Spanish, built friendships, and stayed connected to their cultural roots. Grandfathers taught pitching mechanics to grandchildren, mothers organized team meals, and entire families filled the bleachers on warm summer evenings.

That spirit still exists today. Across the Great Lakes Bay Region, local parks and youth leagues continue carrying on the tradition. Baseball remains a bridge between generations, a sport that preserves stories, culture, and pride while bringing communities together year after year. This summer, the community has an opportunity to keep that tradition alive. Grab a glove, head to a local park, teach a child how to throw a baseball, or support local leagues and teams. Baseball is more than a pastime; it is part of our story, our culture, and our legacy.

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Presents the Ace of Spades Progressive Raffle every Monday at 7pm at Hills Tavern (7304 Gratiot) in Shields. A minimum of $50 awarded every week. Consolation prize increases as the Jackpot grows. Tickets cost $5 each and are available at Hills Tavern or contact any Lions Club Member. Also available via Venmo 24/7. Scan QR Code and include Name-Phone-and envelope number with purchase. A photo of the board is posted on the "Sheilds Lions Club" Facebook page weekly to show the numbers still available. Simply request to join and follow us on Facebook as drawings are videoed live each week.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bay City NAACP Presents:

Two Ways to Celebrate Juneteenth

Health & Wellness Fair • United We Rise Concert

June 17 & June 20, 2026 • Bay City, Michigan

This is a celebration for the whole community — bring your family, bring your neighbors, and bring your appetite!

The Bay City Branch of the NAACP is proud to mark Juneteenth 2026 with two community events — a free health and wellness fair on Wednesday, June 17, and a free outdoor concert on Saturday, June 20. Both events are open to the public at no charge.

About Juneteenth

Juneteenth marks June 19, 1865 — the day enslaved people in Texas finally received word that the Civil War had ended and they were free, making the promise of the Emancipation Proclamation a reality. Now a federal holiday, Juneteenth is celebrated across the country as a day of joy, reflection, and community.

Event One: Health & Wellness Fair

FREE HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

Wednesday, June 17, 2026 • 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Great Lakes Dream Center
700 Lafayette Avenue
Bay City, MI 48708

Kick off Juneteenth week by taking care of yourself and your family. The Bay City NAACP hosts a free Health & Wellness Fair featuring screenings from more than sixteen health providers — all at no cost. Free food and giveaways!

Whether you're coming for a health screening or just to connect with neighbors, everyone is welcome.

Event Two: United We Rise Juneteenth Concert

UNITED WE RISE — FREE CONCERT & FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 20, 2026 • 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Wenonah Park
111 Center Avenue
Bay City, MI 48708

Close out Juneteenth weekend with a free, family-friendly outdoor concert in the heart of downtown Bay City. From reggae to polka to Motown, this lineup was built to have something for everyone — because that's who this event is for.

Concert Lineup

- **Iffical Reggae Movement** | Chicago, IL — Reggae
- **Grupo Vidal** | Kingsville, TX — Tejano, Country, Bachata & Polka
- **Sound Proof Band** | Detroit, MI — Motown Tribute

Between sets, there's plenty to enjoy: free video gaming stations for kids, poetry, dance, a fashion show, and a variety of food trucks serving global street food — from soul food to tacos and beyond.

Before the festival opens, a morning church service will be held at 11:00 AM at Wenonah Park, presided over by Pastor Ben Smith and featuring the renowned Faith International Ministry Choir. All are welcome.

About the Bay City Branch NAACP

The Bay City Branch of the NAACP is a local chapter of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization, founded in 1909. The local branch serves the greater Bay City area by promoting equity, community engagement, and opportunity for all residents.

Both events are free and open to the public. No tickets required.

MEDIA CONTACT

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naacpbaycity@gmail.com (general inquiries)

Jheri McAfee, Interim President

###

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Latinx District: The Big-Project Positioning East Flint as Michigan's New Cultural and Economic Destination

A district built to grow together, strengthen our roots, and create a future of opportunities for all.

Lewis Street:
The Awakening of an Urban Powerhouse
What began as a dream of service is now expanding into a monumental reality. The rehabilitation of 10,000 square feet surrounding our current center is more than just a construction project; it is the consolidation of the LatinX District.

This project represents the natural growth of a success story that already exists, positioning Lewis Street as the most dynamic and well-lit area in all of Flint.
We are reclaiming our place as the economic engine that Michigan cannot ignore, generating new sources of employment and revitalizing the social fabric of our region.

An Ecosystem of Excellence:
Bilingual Education and Modern Housing The heart of the project is the Bilingual Early Education Center, a model school designed with the highest standards of care, recreation, and early stimulation.
We will feature highly trained professionals to offer a two way bilingual education.
not only for the Latino population seeking English as a second language but also for the local community that wants their children to master Spanish from a very young age, opening the doors to the future in a globalized world.
Added to this are modern apartments with accessible prices and spaces designed for comfort, creating a standard of quality that everyone in the state will want to replicate.

The Market and Retail Spaces:
A Trip Around the World in Every Bite The LatinX District will be the epicenter of diversity.

Latinx District, Street View Rendering

Our commercial spaces will offer an international gastronomic selection, where each stall will be a cultural embassy providing a unique experience for both the palate and the mind.

This will also be the home of local artisans and brand creators, who will have exclusive showcases for their products. Additionally, we have designed co-working spaces tailored for entrepreneurs and freelancers seeking a professional environment for their meetings, all while enjoying breakfasts or lunches with Latino, Hispanic, and local cultural themes.

Destination Latinx:
Culture, Entrepreneurship, and Tourism
We want the whole world to set its eyes on us. With the Farmers Market and food fairs, we are creating a tourist destination that will attract visitors from all cities, boosting the local economy and drawing new investments.

The Latinx District is the place where art, commerce, and innovation meet. This development will encourage more businesses to expand into our area, turning Lewis Street into the most important and prestigious cultural corridor in Flint.

Be Part of History:
Invest in Your Own Community A project of this magnitude requires everyone to come together. Being part of the LatinX District is an opportunity to leave a legacy and strengthen the growth of our neighborhood.
Your contribution, becomes a brick for our new bilingual school and job opportunities for our neighbors.
It's not just about money; it's about being able to say with pride in the future:
"I helped build the best district in Flint."

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Sunday, JULY 12
11:00AM- 8:00PM

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

3v3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

SUMMER CHURCH FESTIVAL EVENT!

July 11 & 12, 2026

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936 N 6th Ave, Saginaw, MI 48601

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Registration: 8:00 AM

Games Begin: 9:15 AM
Semi-Finals Held July 12th

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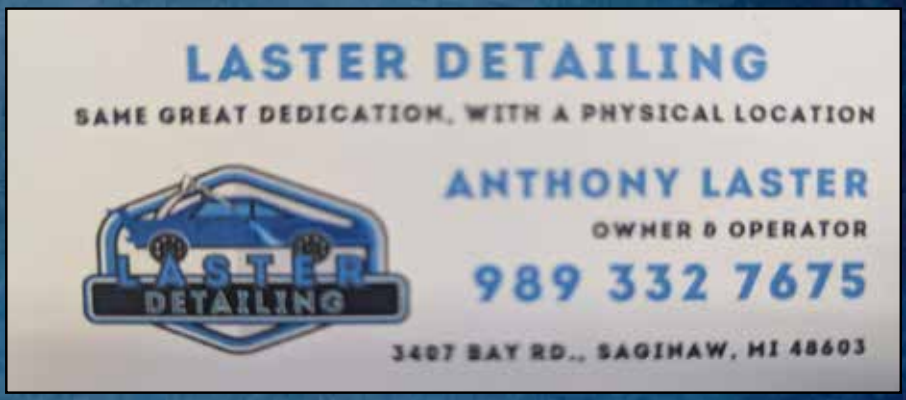

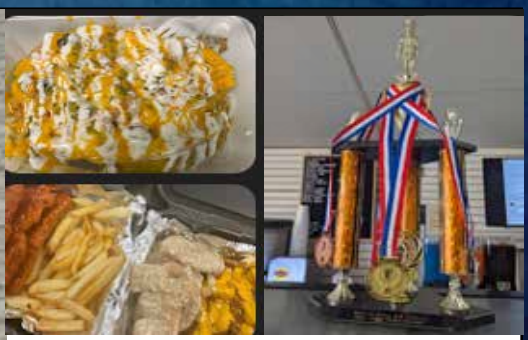

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LOCAL DOCUMENTARY TO HONOR VICTIMS OF TRAGIC 2022 SAGINAW SHOOTING

A powerful new documentary is set to bring national attention back to one of Saginaw's most heartbreaking tragedies while helping secure a brighter future for a young survivor. The film tells the story of the June 5, 2022, mass shooting that occurred during a family barbecue on Saginaw's East Side. The violence claimed the lives of Laura Buendia, Mariano Escareño, and Rafael J. "Rafa" Campos, leaving families and an entire community devastated. Among the victims was Laura Buendia, who was six months pregnant at the time of the shooting. Although she later succumbed to her injuries, doctors were able to save her unborn daughter, Rosie, whose life now stands as a symbol of resilience amid unimaginable loss. According to the documentary's description, the film follows the victims' families as they navigate grief, seek justice, and confront the lasting impact of gun violence. It also highlights the challenges Rosie faces growing up without her mother and the emotional journey of relatives determined to keep the memories of their loved ones alive. The tragedy drew national media attention and reignited conversations about gun violence and public safety across the United States. While an arrest was eventually made months later, family members continue to reflect on the long road toward healing and accountability. Beyond sharing a deeply personal story, the documentary also serves a charitable purpose. Organizers say that all proceeds from the film's release will be used to establish a college fund for Rosie and help cover potential future medical expenses. Community members and supporters are encouraged to attend screenings, not only to honor the memories of those lost but also to support a child whose life was forever changed by the events of that tragic evening. The documentary is scheduled to be shown June 5–7, 2026, coinciding with the fourth anniversary of the shooting. Organizers hope the film will inspire meaningful conversations about violence prevention, community support, and the enduring strength of families affected by tragedy. As Saginaw remembers Laura, Mariano, and Rafa, the documentary stands as both a memorial and a call to action—ensuring that their stories are never forgotten and that Rosie's future remains filled with hope.

HONOR THEIR MEMORIES • SUPPORT ROSIE'S FUTURE • BE PART OF THE CHANGE

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